Magazines and cap houses were erected at each mine complex to store explosives and percussion instruments. In the Maryland mining region, coal was mined by hand pick-work in the nineteenth century. When explosives were first introduced at the turn of the century, the coal was undercut by hand or mining machine and then wedged or blasted down.

A tipple (known in the anthracite and other bituminous coal regions as a "breaker") is a structure in which coal from the mine is processed for market and loaded into railroad cars or other transport facilities. Tipples have changed little in design or function since the early days of mining. The Phoenix Big Vein Coal Company Tipple contains what appears to be a belt-driven crusher of unknown vintage, possibly circa 1920.

AL-VI-C-296

Phoenix Big Viein Coal Co.
Magazine and Tipple
Moores Run Road
Barton, MD



AL-VI-C-296 Phoenix Big Vein Coal G. Magazine & Tipple



AL-UI-C-296 Phoenix Big Vein Coal Co. Magazine & Tipple



H 1 296 AL- UI-C-296 Phoenix Big Vein Coal Co. Magazine & Tipple



AL-UI-C-296 Phoenix Big Vein Coal Co. Magazine & Tipple